ASIFA EAST

The International Animated Film Society

MARCH ISSUE

ASIFA Festival judging nights

you pick the winners

March 15th

March 16th

March 17th

Each night begins @ **6:15pm**

@ The School of Visual Arts

209 E. 23rd Street

in the **amphitheater**

A Letter From The President
Linda Simensky

Greetings from the South. Technically, I am in the north right now, and watched it snow today. Since I haven't seen snow in about two years, there was some brief excitement for me. It was followed by that feeling of being cold and wet and wanting to go home to drink tea. I am on my way to focus groups in Hackensack, and I should note that everyone in Atlanta seems to think that's a pretty funny name for a town. I guess I've grown up hearing it, so it's not that funny. Then I tell them about Ho Ho Kus, which I do think is sort of funny, then I remind them that Georgia has towns with names like Social Circle, which make us folks from NY and NJ laugh.

Unlike my usual quiet trips to NY, this trip involved a little flying adventure. It started when I was on my way to speak to David Ehrlich's class at Dartmouth. As the plane started to descend on the airport in Lebanon, NH, I was impressed with how the pilots could see through all the fog in the tiny, 12-seat plane we were in. After three attempts to land (and an extra hour circling) they announced that they didn't have enough visibility to land, and would be taking us to Burlington, Vermont, and sending us by van to Lebanon. Well, that sounded fine with me, since it involved actually landing. However, a quick glance at the back of the airline magazine pointed out that Burlington was clear across the state from Lebanon. As the six passengers filed out of the plane, we made sarcastic remarks, and I briefly thought that perhaps the two-hour van ride would be like "The Breakfast Club." No such luck. After each of us stated what we were going to be four hours late for, we lapsed into a sulky silence that lasted until the end of the trip, and was only broken by the sound of everyone yelling as the van driver missed the exit for the Lebanon airport. The rest of the trip was fun, although visiting with the Dartmouth students always makes me realize that the smartest students are still filled with the worst cases of "what will I do with my life, how will I find a job, do I need to move to LA to work in animation?" anxiety. It makes me glad that I don't have to worry about finding my first job ever again. Although I must admit, I have at least one dream (nightmare?) a week where it turns out my job was just an internship and I am leaving it to go back to school.

The news from Atlanta is that a group of us are starting to talk about forming an ASIFA chapter in Atlanta. Now that there are two studios, a network, some students, and the people from the Atlanta Film/VIdeo Council, we think there may be enough people to form an actual group. Most of the people down there had never heard of ASIFA before, and seemed happy to find out that there was an existing group. I have no plans to be president of this chapter (I have a full time presidency, as you know) but I am excited about helping to get this group up and going. The touring Black Maria screening that came to Atlanta made me realize how much I missed seeing animation on a large screen. First order of business for ASIFA Atlanta will be designing a logo. I've already suggested they avoid the peach theme. **See you at the jury screenings.**

Remember the helpful hints from last year: caffeine and snacks.

To Contact :
Linda Simensky
Write:
Linda Simensky
V.P. of Original Animation
Cartoon Network
1050 Techwood Drive NW
Atlanta, GA 30318
e-mail: Linda.simensky@turner.com
Call: (404) 885- 0821
Fax: (404) 885-2456

International Executive Board:
David Ehrlich
For ASIFA International Info.
call David @ (802) 234-5401

Membership Secretary:
David Levy
questions concerning membership
ask David @ (212) 846-5441

Treasurer:
Toni Ty$en
(212)722-0069

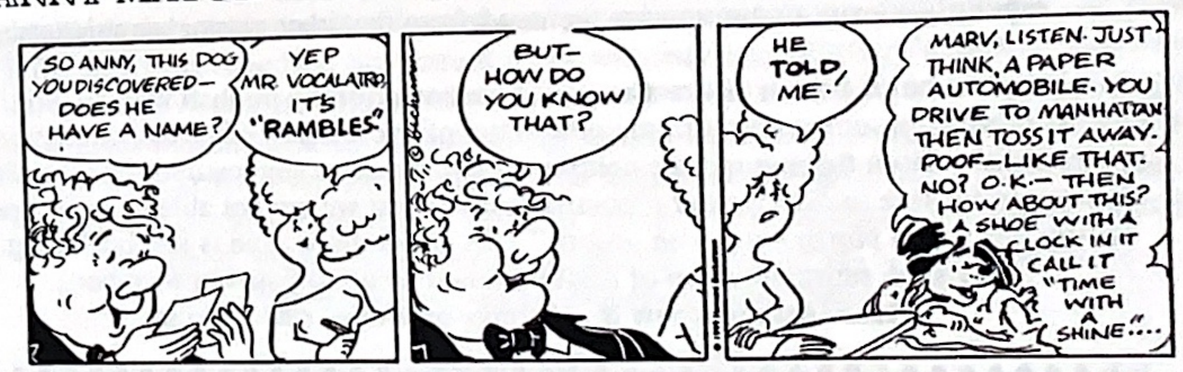
Newsletter Editor:
Maria Scavullo
(212)280-1744
Dolly4Us@aol.com

Webmaster: Michael Dougherty
(212) 654-6476
testanimal@aol.com

ASIFA EAST
The International Animated Film Society Northeast /New York Chapter
A Program of the New York Foundation For The Arts

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Howard Beckerman
Iris Beckerman
Anne Bobroff-Hajal
Tissa David
John Dilworth
Michael Dougherty
Don Duga
David Ehrlich
Marcela Ehrlich
John Gati
Chris Gelles
Nancy Keegan
Ray Kosarin
Candy Kugel
David Levy
Z. Peter Mitchell
Matt Oldfield
Jennifer Oxley
Anthony Peters
Jim Petropolis
Stephanie Rothenberg
Maria Scavullo
Mark Segall
Michael Sporn
Toni Tysen
Tom Warburton

ANNY MATOR By: Howard Beckerman .....to be continued....


SO ANNY, THIS DOG YOU DISCOVERED— DOES HE HAVE A NAME?
YEP MR. VOCALIST? IT'S "RAMBLES"
BUT— HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
HE TOLD ME!
MARV, LISTEN. JUST THINK, A PAPER AUTOMOBILE. YOU DRIVE TO MANHATTAN THEN TOSS IT AWAY. POOF—LIKE THAT. NO? O.K.— THEN HOW ABOUT THIS? A SHOE WITH A CLOCK IN IT CALL IT "TIME WITH A SHINE"....

ASIFA International
David Ehrlich

ASIFA. NET

Our new ASIFA WebSite is almost ready for action. I wanted to invite you to try it out while it's still under construction and let me know what you think.
How easy is it to get from one section to another?
How does it look graphically?
Which sections will be of most interest to you?
the address is: http://asifa.net/under_construction>

REGIONAL ASIFAS

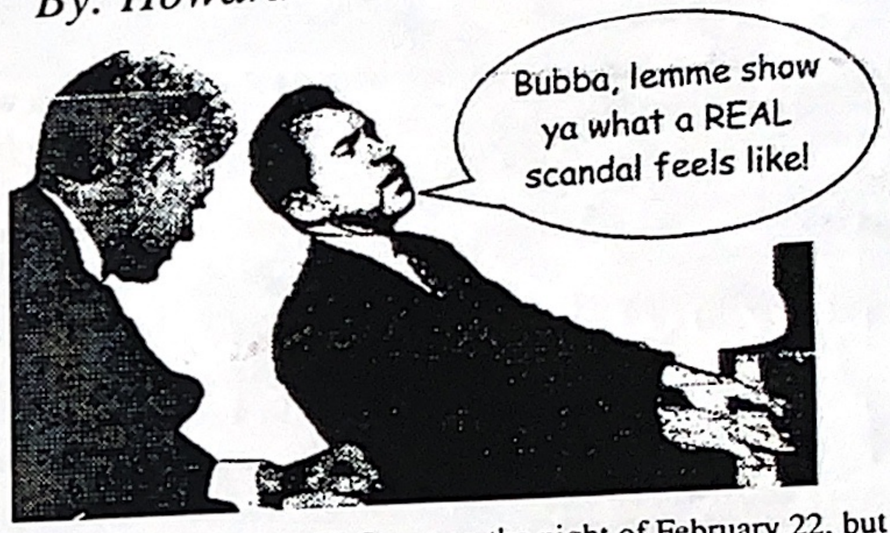
Several of our European Board members are opening discussion of a new proposal, the banding together of ASIFA groups into three regions, Europe, Asia and America. Presumably, the advantage to Europeans would be greater access to the Euro-funds as well as the greater efficiency of meetings on the continent.

It remains to be seen if greater funding will be forthcoming or in fact if Regional ASIFA Board meetings would be any less problematic than they now are. But the question now arises as to whether our U.S. and Canadian groups might not gain in some ways with greater communication and coordination between them.

We have already successfully toured visiting international animators throughout the North American groups; ASIFA-East for years has sent the popular Awards Reel around to the other U.S. groups; and ASIFA-San Francisco and ASIFA-Washington regularly reprint or summarize the news from the other groups' newsletters.

Would it be of further interest to you if we could jointly publish with all North American groups a semi-annual newsletter of events, new films and animation personalities from throughout the continent? Do you have suggestions for other things we might be able to do together ("continentally") that we are not able to do separately within our seven North American groups? This entire discussion is just beginning, and any such reorganization of ASIFA should be up to you, our members.
Please let me know if you have opinions, pro and con.

Mark His Words!
By: Howard Beckerman



It was a frigid walk along East 14th Street on the night of February 22, but it was warm and cozy inside the New 14th Street Y where 100 or so had gathered for the premiere of *Powertown*, The Watergate Musical. *Powertown* is the creation of composer Leon Erlanger and lyricist Mark Segall. (Yes, that's our Mark Segall, ASIFA-East member and former newsletter editor.) The early 1970s were brought back through music and humor by a cast of 14 Actors Equity Association members, some of them too young to have been around during Richard Nixon's presidency and the frustrating months of underhanded trickery and scandal that precipitated his resignation. Director Sherry Teitelbaum, reins firmly in hand, inspired the right degree of irony in their performances. The idea for the work began about ten years ago, but it needed fine tuning and a single minded desire to bring it to fruition. After all, back then the Watergate mess was well behind the country's interest and talk of impeachment is not something we expected to hear about again in the foreseeable future. Well, lo and behold, here we are coming out of another historical brush with presidential and congressional misdeeds. Mark credits much of the enthusiasm for sharpening the script and honing the musical lines to collaborator Erlanger, who was sold on the potential in *Powertown*'s message. So the intervening years were spent editing and realigning. By the time the book of the musical was ready, the recent Clinton saga had begun. The play made the usual rounds of local theatrical entities before the 14th Street Y accepted it for their busy schedule. So, there it is , or was, because February's presentation was only a single outing, a start for Mark and Leon's work, but the audience that gathered that night was enthusiastic and apparently totally entertained warming to capsulized history, expertly served and seasoned with laughs. Let's hope that *Powertown*, The Watergate Musical is accepted by a serious producer who realizes that this stuff never gets dated. There's another national election coming up, and though the candidates change, but politics and human nature don't.

Beckerman Animation
howard.beckerman@gte.com

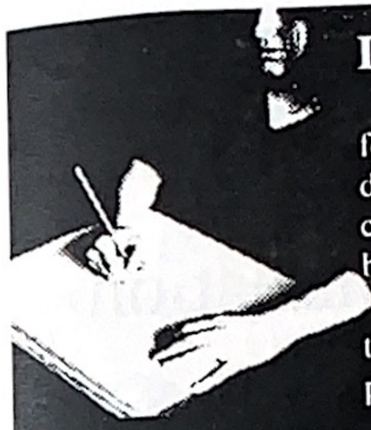
CAST *YOUR* VOTE

As you can see from the cover of this month's newsletter, there has been a last minute change in the scheduling and venue of this year's judging. Before you read any further, grab your date book, your calendar, or your Palm Pilot and pencil in **Monday March 15th, Tuesday March 16th, and Wednesday March 17th as the nights for judging.** Each night will begin at **6:15pm** promptly, and will take place in the amphitheater at **The School of Visual Arts.**

The ASIFA-East festival has grown tremendously in the past few years, and even with adding an extra night of judging, we anticipate full programs of films to screen each night. For the first time this year, longer entries must also include an excerpt in addition to the full piece. While we are going to make every effort to show complete works, if categories are running long, we may choose to screen these excerpts.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of
the ASIFA-East Animation Festival
a festival where you, the members of ASIFA, decide the winners.
Come down to SVA, and cast your vote
we'll be looking forward to seeing you there!

Any questions contact :
Nancy Keegan
Festival Co-Chair
212-846-5435
DaWezl@aol.com



Lead from your Ed.

Hello, please note that the ASIFA festival judging nights have been changed from their original dates. Also look forward to a special April issue comemorating ASIFA Festivals of years past. The issue will be curated by Mark Segall .

If you would like to write an article about an animated film that you have recently seen or you have any interesting news please give Maria a call # (212)280-1744.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES:

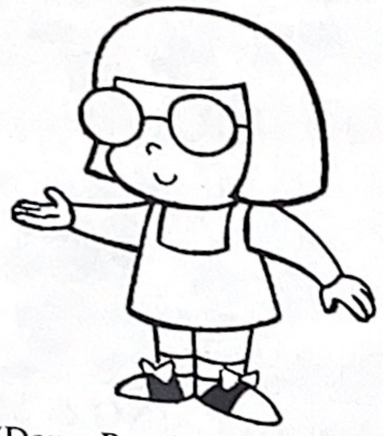
For April newsletter, articles due Thursday, March 15
For May newsletter, articles due Monday, April 26
For June newsletter, articles due Monday, May 24
Any questions? contact Maria Scavullo (212)280-1744

SPRING 1999 ASIFA SCREENING & MEETING SCHEDULE:

Executive Board Meetings: 6:30pm at Buzzco., 33 Bleecker Street
Wednesday, April 21
Wednesday, May 5
Wednesday, June 2

Date:	Topic:	Contact:
March 15-16-17	Jury Screenings	Simensky/Keegan
April 13	Festival (New School)	Simensky /Keegan
May 14	CN War Cartoons	Linda Simensky
June 11	Open Screening	Linda Simensky

Yvette Kaplan Directs . . . "Zoey's Zoo" For Nickelodeon Animation



ASIFA's own Yvette Kaplan (Doug, Beavis & Butthead) is directing "Zoey's Zoo," a sweet-natured, seven-minute animated short. "Zoey" will air in September on "Oh Yeah! Cartoons!," an innovative series of original cartoons premiering on Nickelodeon. Created by Amy Anderson and David Burd, "Zoey's Zoo" shows what happens when a girl's love of animals goes too far.

"I've known Yvette since 1976 when she was starting as an animator and I painted her cels," said writer David Burd, co-creator of Zoey. "I'm glad we're finally getting a chance to work together again."

The production is being handled by Nickelodeon Animation in Burbank, while David produces from Pennsylvania, Yvette directs from New York, and Amy watches the action from New Jersey. "So far, it's working out just great," said Yvette. "I make script notes by fax and receive storyboards and make changes by Federal Express." Bob Boyle of Nick Animation contributes the storyboards.

Continuing the cross-country theme, the track was recorded in New York & Las Vegas. A surprise Vegas celebrity provides one of the voices.

In addition to creating little Zoey, Amy sings the opening and closing theme song.

"Oh Yeah! Cartoons!"was created by Fred Seibert.
Fred Seibert & Larry Huber are Executive Producers.

Nickelodeon, a division of Viacom International, is the number one rated cable television network in America.

Station Zero

On March 8, MTV will be premiering a brand new animated series, Station Zero. The show is a half hour hip-hop music video based show. The four characters, Chino, Karaz, Scooter and DJ Tech run this 'pirate video show' from their basement in the Bronx. The show is a mix of satire and hip-hop culture history.

The show uses a new motion capture technology developed at Possible Worlds by Michael Ferraro and Janine Cirincione.

"I'm on for the REAL!"
"I'm on for DINERO!"
"We're on STATION ZERO"
"We're on for HALF AN HOUR"
COMING THIS SPRING
999
COME ON WITH THE COME ON, GET DOWN WITH THE GET DOWN!!

The writers / creators, Tramp Daly, Carlito Rodriguez, Jody Milano, and Barry Bookhard are writers from the Source magazine, Loud Records, various independent production / management companies. The Animation director is Geoffrey Johnson, the Supervising producer is Merle Becker, and the Executive Producer is Abby Terkuhle.

Catch the show every night on MTV at 6:30pm starting Monday, March 8!

EVENTS

MOMA
Friday March 12, 1999 @7:00pm

The Museum of Modern Art presents
14 classic Warner Bros. Cartoons by Chuck Jones

Peter Bogdanovich conducts an onstage conversation with the artist.
Before the show hop on the escalator, one flight up is a collection of sight gags.
Humor, satire, and the grotesque in modern and contemporary drawing.
This exhibition brings back memories of doodling in the margins of your school notebook and may cause you to break out into giggles.

~Maria~

March Drawing Workshops

Wednesdays
7-10 pm
209 E. 23rd St.
Rm. 607

FREE
to
ASIFA members
& Students

questions? call Toni Tysen
@ (212) 722-0069

because of jury screenings class will not meet March 10th

FESTIVALS

CA Sun International Animation Festival
Deadline: March 10, 1999
call: (310)382-4545
website: www.csun.edu/animate

Outfest 1999
Deadline: March 26, 1999
call: (323) 960-9200
email: outfest@outfest.org
website: www.outfest.org

Melbourne International Film Festival
Deadline: April 15, 1999
call: 011 613 417 2011
email: miff@netspace.net.au
website: www.cinemedia.net/MIFF

Wine Country Film Festival
Deadline: April 30, 1999
call: (707)996-2536
email: wcfilmfest@aol..com

The Crested Butte Reel Festival
Deadline: May 1, 1999
Students: June 1, 1999
call: (970)349-7487
email: cftarts@rmi.net
website: www.crestedbuttereelfest.com

Chicago Underground Film Festival
Deadline: May 15, 1999
call: (773)327-film
email: info@cuff.org
website: www.cuff.org

Vancouver Effects & Animation Festival
Deadline: May 21, 1999
call: (604) 874-5589
email: veaf@bc.sympatico.ca
website: www.sights.com/veaf

Fort Worth Film Festival
Deadline: June 15, 1999
email:fwff@fortworthfilmfest.com
website: www.fortworthfilmfest.com

ASIFA *East*
c/o Michael Sporn Animation
632 Broadway
4th Floor
NYC
10012

NEW YORK, NY 100
AM
05 MAR
1999